

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/003113

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ C22B1/248

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl⁷ C22B1/00-1/26Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2005
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2005 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2005

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | US 2002/0152843 A1 (Masataka ISHIHARA et al.), 24 October, 2002 (24.10.02), Claims & JP 2002-194449 A & JP 2002-146445 A & JP 2002-121625 A & JP 2002-129248 A | 1-13 |
| Y | WO 2003/064709 A1 (Koyo Seiko Co., Ltd.), 07 August, 2003 (07.08.03), Claims & JP 2003-221625 A | 1-13 |
| Y | US 2003/0075014 A1 (Masataka ISHIHARA et al.), 24 April, 2003 (24.04.03), Claims & JP 2002-180108 A & JP 2002-180109 A | 1-13 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
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- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
14 March, 2005 (14.03.05)Date of mailing of the international search report
29 March, 2005 (29.03.05)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | JP 1-108321 A (Daido Steel Co., Ltd.), 25 April, 1989 (25.04.89), Claims; page 2, lower left column (Family: none) | 1-13 |
| Y | JP 2001-089818 A (Musashi Seimitsu Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha), 03 April, 2001 (03.04.01), Claims; Par. Nos. [0002], [0012], [0015] (Family: none) | 2, 9, 10 |
| Y | JP 2002-241854 A (Honda Motor Co., Ltd.), 28 August, 2002 (28.08.02), Claims; Par. Nos. [0006], [0007] (Family: none) | 2, 9, 10 |